

ABSTRACT

An object of the present invention is to provide an automatic steering control apparatus, including an autopilot, which enables a ship to turn around a desired fixed point as a turning center with a desired turning radius without being affected by an extraneous factor, such as a tidal current or the like.

To achieve the object, a center position, a turning radius and a turning direction for turning are initially designated by the operator, a tangent to a turning circle at an intersection of a straight line from the turning center to a position of the ship and the turning circle, and a course of the ship is controlled to approach the tangent.